

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant	:	George F. Kick, et al.
App. No.	:	10/728,728
Filed	:	December 5, 2003
For	:	EXPANDABLE PERCUTANEOUS SHEATH
Examiner	:	Sarah A. Simpson
Art Unit	:	3731
Conf No.	:	1724

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application is a PTO/SB/08 Equivalent listing thirty (30) references to be considered by the Examiner. Also enclosed are three (3) non-patent literature documents, as listed on the PTO/SB/08 Equivalent.

On the PTO/SB/08 Equivalent, Applicants have listed five (5) U.S. Office Actions and associated responses by Applicants in other pending U.S. applications owned by Applicants' assignee. Applicants request the Examiner to consider the submitted Office Actions and associated responses by Applicants in each of these other pending applications when determining the patentability of the pending claims of the present application. Applicants understand that the Examiner has access to sophisticated online Patent Office computing systems that provide ready access to, for example, specification and drawing publications, pending claims, and complete file histories, including, for example, cited art, Office Actions, responses, and Notices of Allowance. Thus, Applicants have not enclosed copies of these file histories. However, if the Examiner cannot readily access these file histories, Applicants would be pleased to provide any portion of any of the file histories at any time upon request.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g) and (h), Applicants make no representation that a search has been made or that the information is considered to be material to patentability. Additionally, inclusion on this list is not an admission that any of the cited documents are prior art in this application. Further, Applicants make no representation regarding the completeness of this list, nor represents that better art does not exist.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a final action and before the mailing of a Notice of Allowance. This Statement is accompanied by the fees set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,
KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 11-19-09

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